

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

This examiner's amendment updates the continuation data.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

Page 1, paragraph 1, line 1, after "09/839,050", insert -- , now US Patent 6,757,623, --.

Reasons For Allowance

The combination as claimed wherein a method and system for analyzing flow of a substance, comprising determining a travel time of a flow between the first location and the second location using the first data representing a first flow velocity, the second data representing the second flow velocity, and a constant (claims 1, 8, 17, 20) is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Sato et al. (JP 11-201812) discloses acoustic measurement in fluid pipes which has microphone set at two points in fluid pipe which detects time of sound wave

propagated in fluid flow direction that is analyzed for correlation coefficient calculation of detected waveform (Title). Sato et al. does not disclose determining a travel time of a flow between the first location and the second location using the first data representing a first flow velocity, the second data representing the second flow velocity, and a constant.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P Nghiem whose telephone number is (571) 272-2277. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Art Unit: 2863

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/Michael P. Nghiem/

Primary Examiner, GAU 2863

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